

Message Text

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62

ORIGIN SCCT-01

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 PRS-01 H-02 CIAE-00

NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 PA-02 INR-07

PM-03 SS-15 NSC-05 SP-02 L-03 USSS-00 SY-05 SCS-03

SCA-01 /073 R

DRAFTED BY S/CCT:EWSCHAEFER:IJG

APPROVED BY S/CCT - ROBERT A. FEAREY

NEA/P - MR. VAN ORDER

S/PRS - MR. FUNSETH (INFO)

H - MR. FLATEN (INFO)

EUR/P - MR. JERABEK (INFO)

S/S-O - MR. MACK

----- 096184

O 082159Z JUL 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

CINCEUR

SECDEF

UNCLAS STATE 160438

CINCEUR FOR POLAD, SECDEF FOR OSD/PA

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS

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SUBJECT: DEPARTMENT PRESS BRIEFING -- ABDUCTION OF COLONEL MORGAN

1. FOR YOUR INFORMATION AND GUIDANCE FOLLOWING ARE EXCERPTS FROM DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN'S NOON PRESS BRIEFING, JULY 8, 1975.

Q. ANYTHING NEW ON THE COLONEL MORGAN CASE?

A. THERE IS NOT, FRANKLY, ANY DETAILED INFORMATION I CAN GIVE YOU BEYOND YESTERDAY. THE LEBANESE GOVERNMENT CONTINUES TO DO EVERYTHING POSSIBLE TO TRY AND SECURE COLONEL MORGAN'S SAFE RELEASE. AND THE LEBANESE GOVERNMENT AND WE CONTINUE TO REMAIN HOPEFUL THAT THERE WILL BE SUCCESS IN THESE EFFORTS.

Q. IS THERE A DEADLINE, BOB?

A. THERE WAS A DEADLINE OF -- I BELIEVE IT IS OVER AT 1400 WASHINGTON TIME TOMORROW. I BELIEVE THE ORIGINAL DEADLINE WAS 72 HOURS. BUT I CAN'T GIVE YOU ANY DETAILS. THIS IS BEING WORKED ON VERY ASSIDUOUSLY.

Q. BOB, THERE WAS A STATEMENT ISSUED TODAY BY A MEMBER OF LEBANESE LEFTIST ORGANIZATIONS SAYING THAT THE GROUP WHICH HAS BEEN IDENTIFIED AS THE ABDUCTORS OF COLONEL MORGAN IS A FALSE GROUP, A GROUP PUT UP BY THE RIGHT-WING IN HOPES OF SECURING AMERICAN INTERVENTION IN LEBANON. DO WE HAVE ANY CLUE AS TO THE GENUINENESS OF THIS GROUP?

A. WE DO NOT. I SAW THAT REPORT, BUT I DO NOT HAVE ANY CLUE OF THE GENUINENESS OF THAT REPORT.

Q. AS A LEFT WING TERRORIST GROUP OR POLITICAL GROUP?

A. NO, WE DO NOT.

Q. YOU DON'T KNOW WHO IT IS?

A. NO. THIS GROUP IS RATHER MYSTERIOUS. KISSINGER
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: KIDNAPPING, PRESS CONFERENCES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 08 JUL 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STATE160438
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: EWSCHAEFER:IJG
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750235-0828
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750775/aaaacppf.tel
Line Count: 107
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN SCCT
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: MartinML
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 03 MAR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <03 MAR 2003 by ThomasVJ>; APPROVED <10 MAR 2004 by MartinML>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: DEPARTMENT PRESS BRIEFING -- ABDUCTION OF COLONEL MORGAN
TAGS: PFOR, PINS, CASC, SOPN, US, LE, (MORGAN, ERNEST R)
To: BEIRUT MULTIPLE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006